

FEB 11 2004  
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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL	Application Number	09/446,323
<small>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</small>	Filing Date	March 20, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Stefan SANNER
	Group Art Unit	1743
	Examiner Name	Latoya CROSS
	Attorney Docket Number	032034-4000

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.  
**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on December 4, 2003  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Submission of Formal Drawings

v. ☐ Petition for Three-month Extension of Time

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380

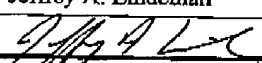
i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

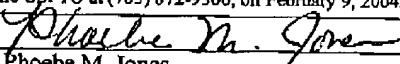
ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	Jeffrey A. Lindeman	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,658
Signature		Date	February 9, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at (703) 872-9306, on February 9, 2004.	
Signature:	
Name:	Phoebe M. Jones

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Docket No: 032034-4000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT Application of:

Stefan SANNER.

Application No.: 09/446,323

Filed: March 20, 2000

For: DEVICE FOR TAKING AND  
EXAMINING SAMPLES

)  
) Group Art Unit: 1743

)  
) Examiner: Latoya Cross

)  
) Date: February 9, 2004

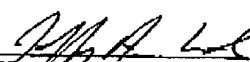
**NOTIFICATION OF LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT  
TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS**

Mail Stop **RCE**  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Issue Fee  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.27, Applicant submits that it is no longer entitled to small entity status.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey A. Lindeman  
Registration No. 34,658

NIXON PEABODY LLP  
400 Ninth Street, N.W., #900  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 585-5000  
(202) 585-8080 Facsimile

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